

# Press Release

## HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### Department of Community Services



#### PUBLIC SAFETY

"Ensuring a Safe  
Harford"

#### EDUCATION

"Preparing Now,  
Building for the Future"

#### EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

"Governing Smarter"

#### ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

"Growing and Sustaining  
Harford's Prosperity"

#### ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

"Protecting Our  
Environment"

#### QUALITY LIVING

"Safeguarding What is  
Important to Harford  
County Citizens"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 4, 2012

Media Contact: Elizabeth S. Hendrix, Director – 410-638-3389

### Harford County Teen Court Training for Youth and Adult Volunteers

*Court provides a second chance to youth; teens needed to serve as jury*

(Bel Air, MD) - - The Harford County Teen Court was piloted in the spring of 2011 and is approaching its second year of operation as a diversion program that provides first time, non-violent youth offenders with a second chance. The program follows a restorative justice model in which it is determined what is best for the respondent, the victim, and the community at large.

Offenders agree to participate in the Teen Court program, and if successful, avoid becoming involved in the juvenile justice system. The Teen Court program is overseen by the Harford County Department of Community Services Office of Drug Control Policy and the Local Management Board in partnership with the Department of Juvenile Services, State's Attorney Office, Sheriff's Office, and Harford County Public Schools.

Harford County District Court Judge Susan Hazlett presides over the court. The jury is comprised of teens from throughout the county. For the teen jurors, this is a volunteer experience and a chance to see firsthand how the criminal justice system works. With the guidance of adult volunteers, the jury develops a ruling for the offending youth, such as writing an apology letter, performing community service hours or serving on the teen jury in the future.

Teen Court Training for youth and adult volunteers is scheduled for Thursday, September 13, 2012, 4:30 p.m., at the Harford County District Court, 2 South Bond Street in Bel Air. To register for the Teen Court Training session on September 13, contact Katie Badders at 410-638-3333 or [teencourt@harfordcountymd.gov](mailto:teencourt@harfordcountymd.gov).

Teen Court is held the second Thursday of the month in the evening.

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"Preserving Harford's past; promoting Harford future"



